

Amendments to the Specification:

Please add the following new paragraph before the section titled "FIELD OF THE INVENTION," which begins on line 1 of page 2:

-- CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

C1
This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 09/531,712 filed March 21, 2000 and entitled "Gaming Machine With Moving Symbols On Symbol Array," now U.S. Patent No. 6,517,432, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety. --

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 27, with the following rewritten paragraph:

C2
-- FIGS. 4 through 11 are display screen captures showing interplays between associated symbols.~~symbols; and~~

FIG. 12 is a block diagram illustrating one general method of operating a slot machine.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 27, with the following rewritten paragraph:

C3
-- Aspects of the game other than the pay line patterns may also relate to the theme of the game. In the football game, for example, ten reels could be used so that each reel corresponds to a ten-yard designation on an American football field of the action screen. The number of reels could be increased or decreased between game rounds depending on the remaining distance required to score a touchdown. The game play methodology, which has been previously described, is shown generally in FIG. 12. --